

**Amendment to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended): A method of deriving a system configuration of a system of a computer in a configuration deriving system which includes a plurality of computers to be performance-guaranteed, a supervisory server and a configuration deriving apparatus, wherein the method is executed by the configuration deriving apparatus, said method comprising:

predicting a response time from issuing of a processing request to end of its processing based on the basis of an occurrence frequency of processing requests to the system of the computer systems and computer system the configurations of the system of the computer, wherein the occurrence frequency is obtained from the supervisory server;

calculating costs of the system configurations based on the basis of the configuration of the system; configurations; and

deriving a cheapest system configuration from the system configurations having a probability equal to or lower than B with respect to a given response time A and a probability B given as a probability of processing having a response time equal to or longer than A for all the processing requests

receiving a response time A from issuing the processing request to the end of its processing;

calculating a probability of existence of processing whose response time is equal to or longer than A with respect to processing of all requests;

deriving a configuration of a cheapest system from among configurations of systems having a probability equal to or lower than B; and  
changing the configuration of the system based on a result of the deriving step.

2. (currently amended): A method of deriving a system configuration of a system of a computer in a configuration deriving system which includes a plurality of computers to be performance-guaranteed, a supervisory server and a configuration deriving apparatus, wherein the method is executed by the configuration deriving apparatus, the method comprising:

predicting a response time from issuing of a processing request to end of its processing based on the basis of an occurrence frequency of processing requests to the system of the computer systems and computer system the configurations of the system of the computer, the occurrence frequency being obtained from the supervisory server;

calculating costs of the system configurations based on the basis of the configuration of the system; configurations; and

deriving a cheapest system configuration from the system configurations having a probability equal to or lower than D with respect to a given response time C and a probability D given as a probability of processing having a response time equal to or longer than C for all the processing requests

receiving a response time C from issuing the processing request to the end of its processing;

calculating a probability of existence of processing whose response time is equal to or longer than C with respect to processing of all requests;

deriving a configuration of a cheapest system from among configurations of system having the probability equal to or lower than D; and

changing the configuration of the system based on a result of the deriving step.

3-4. (canceled).

5. (currently amended): A method of deriving a system configuration according to claim [4] 1, wherein  
said dynamical change of the system configuration is made by starting or stopping a preliminary system configuration element.

6. (currently amended): An apparatus for deriving a system configuration of a system of a computer in a configuration deriving system which includes a plurality of computers to be performance-guaranteed, a supervisory server and the apparatus, the apparatus comprising:

means for predicting a response time from issuing of a processing request to end of its processing based on the basis of an occurrence frequency of processing requests to a system of a computer systems and computer system a configurations of the system of the computer, wherein the occurrence frequency is obtained from a supervisory server;

means for calculating costs of the system configurations based on the basis of the configuration of the system; configurations; and

means for deriving a cheapest system configuration from the system configurations in which a probability having a response time equal to or longer than

A is equal to or lower than B with respect to a given response time A and a probability B given as a probability of processing having a response time equal to or longer than A for all the processing requests

means for receiving a response time A from issuing the processing request to the end of its processing;

means for calculating a probability of existence of processing whose response time is equal to or longer than A with respect to processing of all requests;

means for deriving a configuration of a cheapest system from among configurations of systems having a probability equal to or lower than B; and

means for changing the configuration of the system based on a result of the deriving step.